

DOUGLASS TOOLE  
CHAIRMAN

FRANK H. LEWIS  
VICE CHAIRMAN

CLYDE JOHNSON

HARRY P. BURLEIGH

CLAYTON T. GARRISON

# TEXAS WATER QUALITY BOARD



1700 NORTH CONGRESS AVE. 78701  
P.O. BOX 13246 CAPITOL STATION 78711  
AUSTIN, TEXAS

May 2, 1975

E - JMC

Re: McGinnes Industrial Maintenance  
Corporation  
Waste Discharge Permit No. 01221

The Honorable John L. Hill  
Attorney General of Texas  
Supreme Court Building  
Austin, Texas

Attention: Philip K. Maxwell, Chief  
Environmental Protection Division

Dear General Hill:

Please accept this letter as a request for the Attorney General to institute and conduct a suit in the name of the State of Texas for injunctive relief and the recovery of appropriate civil penalties against McGinnes Industrial Maintenance Corporation, 5619 Griggs Road, Houston, Texas 77021. Information and evidence available to this agency indicate that the company has violated the terms and conditions of Waste Discharge Permit No. 01221.

At approximately 8:30 a.m. on May 1, 1975, a barge utilized by McGinnes Industrial Maintenance Corporation tilted in a slip canal adjacent to the Intercoastal Waterway in Galveston County, causing the spillage of 80-90 tons of centrifuged paper mill sludge. This sludge consisted of paper fiber, silt and biological solids. The cause of the tilting is as yet unknown but, negligent unloading of the barge is indicated. The area where the spill occurred is marshland located near Lake Carancahua and is a breeding ground for shrimp. If the spill spreads, this habitat will be endangered.

In requesting that you represent the Texas Water Quality Board in this matter, we would appreciate having the opportunity to assist in determining the nature of the action necessary in this lawsuit. For the Board, Jack M. Cox will be the enforcement attorney who will assist your office with this case and will endeavor to furnish whatever information you may need.

*J. E. Peavy*  
J. E. PEAVY, MD

BEN RAMSEY

HUGH C. YANTIS, JR.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PH. (512) 475-2651

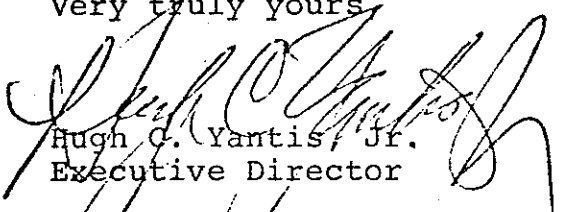


The Honorable John L. Hill

May 2, 1975

Page -2-

Very truly yours,



Hugh C. Yantis, Jr.  
Executive Director

cc: All Texas Water Quality Board Members  
Mr. Thomas P. Harrison, Regional Counsel  
Environmental Protection Agency